

out of his rights and emoluments by a mercenary hireling? The merits of an author in the medical science, are hard earned indeed. They are the result of intense study, indefatigable industry, and painful application; and if we countenance such interferences, we at once check the spirit of ambition and enterprise, and impede exertion in the cause of science and of humanity.

Under the above circumstances, and in justice to himself, our author has issued the volume at the head of this article; in which he compresses all his opinions omitted in his former works, and which he calls the *doctrinal part of surgery*. It contains the substance of his evening lectures, which have attracted so much attention in the British metropolis, but which he considers cannot with propriety be incorporated in the regular anatomical course. We regret very much that the press of matter for the present number precludes our entering into any examination of the merits of the work before us, and of presenting some of the views of the author. Like his other writings, it requires no commendation at our hands. It embraces a great variety of subjects, and presents many interesting cases, treated in a very plain, concise, and familiar manner. W. M. F.

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XX. *Recherches Anatomiques, Physiologiques et Pathologiques sur le Systeme Veineux.* Par M. G. BRESCHET. 7 Livraisons. Fol. Paris, 1829.

The object of this work, as its title implies, is to give an anatomical, physiological, and pathological account of the venous system. Mr. Breschet has for many years been known as a successful cultivator of practical anatomy, and as a large contributor to the stock of medical science by various publications. This well-established reputation must be much enhanced by the style and matter of the present undertaking, so far as we can form a judgment from the small portion of the work that has reached us. The figures are of the natural size, and many of them coloured after nature; to say that they are executed with the utmost fidelity, would be only to confirm what may be expected from so experienced and ardent an anatomist.

These plates exhibit in a complete and satisfactory manner, by diversified views, the veins in the spinal canal and about the vertebræ. They also exhibit the venous sinuses which form so interesting a feature in the texture and composition of the vertebræ, and of the flat bones of the cranium. And to this may be added views of the veins of the head and neck, and of those in the interior of the trunk of the body.

The details are of a character of excessive minuteness, and with that exception it does not appear to us that there are many of a novel kind in descriptive anatomy, at the same time full credit should be awarded to Mr. Breschet for the pains he has taken in perfecting this part of the science. The physiological and pathological part will probably illustrate more fully the value of his labours, and perhaps their originality.

W. E. H.

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XXI. *The influence of Modern Physical Education of Females in producing and confirming Deformity of the Spine.* By E. W. DUFFIN, Surgeon. C. S. Francis, New York, Monroe and Francis, Boston, 1830. pp. 140, 12mo.

This well written and sensible little volume, is designed to afford a popular view of the subject of which it treats. It is a judicious attempt to "reduce to

a form intelligible to the general reader, many valuable observations which have been confined to writings strictly professional." In the perusal of this work, we have not observed any thing which can be considered as original, either in theory or practice; although we think the author has been successful in levelling to every capacity the principal points of the important subject of which he treats. He in general agrees with Mr. Shaw, whose sentiments have been already before our readers. In the almost too sweeping condemnation of mechanical treatment, however, he does not derive support from the latest work of that able writer, who, after rejecting instrumental treatment in his earlier writings, was, by more lengthened experience, brought to its decided support. At present, while very little difference of opinion exists as to the causes of lateral deformity, some discrepancy is discoverable among authors, as to the most successful plan of treatment; but on the whole, the weight of authority is inclining to the judicious and cautious use of mechanical auxiliaries; by no means, however, to the exclusion of those remedies which are found by experience to invigorate and consolidate the system. Taking exception, therefore, to the opinions of our author only on that point, we have pleasure in recommending the little volume of Mr. Duffin to all parents, and especially to those who are entrusted with the important task of conducting female education.

J. K. M.

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XXII. *Manual of Therapeutics.* By L. MARTINET, D. M. P. translated, with alterations and additions. By ROBERT NORTON, M. D. Extraordinary Member of the Medical Society of Edinburgh. London, 1830. pp. 323, 12mo.

Those who estimate, as highly as we do, the little work on pathology, by M. Martinet, will be pleased to receive from the same hands, a manual of therapeutics. The latter, indeed, must be considered a necessary accompaniment to the former, and will, no doubt, receive the same favour that has been awarded to its predecessor.

The translator, in his preface, observes, "it will be proper, and it may obviate prejudice, on account of its foreign extraction, to mention that this work is not an exact translation." There are two admissions in this sentence we think objectionable. Science belongs to no country. Those who feel the prejudices alluded to, deceive themselves, if they suppose that they are true lovers of science; they are merely coquetting, and had better abandon the pursuit at once. To think such prejudices worthy of notice, to admit that they have any weight, above all, to sacrifice any thing to them, is to encourage and perpetuate what every exertion should be made to destroy.

As to alterations, it may perhaps be admitted, that a translator has the liberty of making them, if it be *distinctly stated in the title page* that such a liberty has been taken, but the judiciousness of such a course, seems to us very questionable, and that it is better in all cases, where changes seem demanded, to make the corrections in the form of notes. We have not compared the translation with the original, so as to be able to say whether the alterations in the present instance are improvements, but the additions made by the translation are numerous, and in many instances judicious.